

THE AMERICAN GESTAPO AND
ELIAN GONZALEZ AND MEMORIES
by Sherman H. Skolnick

It was on the screen of some people who remember, with pain and fright, similar events. There it was, a heavily-armed, Gestapo-like team, without an arrest or search warrant, come to rip Elian Gonzalez away. What some call the monopoly press have no time or inclination to find and interview those who had similar experiences. If it happened years ago to a political dissident, the press hounds are not interested. After all, so the common wisdom goes, if you have a big mouth and are anti-Establishment, you get what you deserve. I ought to know the feeling. It happened to me, on a Thursday, in March, 1980, twenty years ago as I write this. The nation was facing a financial meltdown because of what became known as the "Silver Collapse". Several large stock and commodity brokers were facing bankruptcy because the price of silver, pushed by rampant speculation to over 50 dollars per ounce, had fallen off the cliff.

As later admitted in print, the head of the Federal Reserve had a secret emergency meeting with bankers. The meeting was so sudden, the Fed Chief met the bankers in his bathrobe. Several large banks, tied to the silver gambling, were facing going under. There was a danger of a run on banks. The secret police were ordered to take extra-legal, emergency measures, and to hell with the Constitution. At the time, I was a well-known college lecturer. Despite my disability from childhood, as a paraplegic from polio, I traveled around the nation including to nearby states like Indiana, in a specially-set up vehicle, giving public speeches and conducting seminars. Advertisements had already announced that for the coming Saturday, I was scheduled to give a controversial seminar on, as I expected, the then upcoming bank collapse.

Right near my front door, I was standing on my braces and crutches. I was waiting for a woman friend who was enroute to take me to the barber and then to lunch. As she backed up to my home driveway, another car pulled up near my sidewalk and two men, dressed in very dark clothes, jumped out and ran up to me. "Are you Sherman Skolnick?" they barked at me. "Yes" I answered. "Are you armed?" they demanded to know.

I responded in the most foolish, almost fatal response of my life. "I am an Orthodox Jew. I carry no gun." [I should have added, The Almighty Is My Rock and My Weapon.] As they rushed up to me, I could see they were heavily armed. [A thought, much later, occurred to me. If I had a gun, would I lose my balance on my crutches and fall if I tried to hold the gun and shoot?]

As they grabbed me, I cried "I must have my folding wheelchair!" which was a few feet away. They were not interested to know. They shoved me like a sack of potatoes into the front seat of their car.

I screamed, "Harriet, call the police!" [I did not know at the time that this was the secret police.] As she rushed up to their car, she put her hand into the open window. They put up the electric window, almost driving off with her arm inside.

They drove me from my residence in Chicago, Illinois, across the State line to Indiana. They knew I could not run away, so they stopped at McDonald's, not for me but for themselves. It was right near a pay phone. I called a friend collect and blurted out, "I may be cut off any moment. I'm being kidnapped. Pray for me."

After a long ride, they drove up through the electric truck entrance door of a distant jail. They dumped me into a jail wheelchair and rolled me over to the Warden. "You keep him here, no questions" they commanded the Warden. I was put in a solitary cell, reserved for desperate criminals.

The Warden opened the cell door and entered. "Please understand, I do not know why you are here. I have to follow orders", he said with a sad look. "I understand your condition. I have a brother, a paraplegic, wounded from Viet Nam. Maybe I can figure out a way to send you over to the State Penitentiary that has a hospital section", he said, visibly upset. "Look, Warden, I am not sick. I don't need a hospital," I answered.

A day later he again entered my jail cell. "I found out who you are, Mr. Skolnick. I am running a terrible risk to try to help you. I found out you are a friend of the former head of the Crime Commission in this part of the State. I called him. Sunday morning is a quiet time. I told him to pull up his car into the truck entrance electric door, like he is delivering something here. I am going to roll you into a blanket and put you on the floor of the back seat of his car. He promised to take only the back roads and get you back to your home. I don't know what they will do to me for releasing you. But you better stop doing whatever it is you are doing. Next time may be worse for you." He said this, his face plainly filled with compassion.

"Warden, where is the arrest warrant? What am I charged with? What crime have I committed? At what trial have I been found guilty?" I pleaded with him. "Please, Mr. Skolnick, I already told you I do not know why you are here. I was ordered by the highest authority to keep you here. Promise me, you will never, never cross the State line back to Indiana," he answered.

Smuggled out the side door into the truck entrance, I got back to my home, my Crime Commission friend driving at high speed on little used back roads, just like we had just robbed a bank.

Some of my relatives showed no understanding, condemning me with statements, like "You got what you deserve. Why don't you shut your rotten big mouth?"

When some of my more understanding friends take me places, I always tell them, with a sarcastic sneer, "My passports to Indiana and Cuba have been revoked. Do not cross the State boundary line with me in the car."

After I got home, I found out that the local police in my neighborhood refused to take a report from my woman friend. They showed her a copy of a bulletin on the FBI National Crime Computer Wire, "Sherman Skolnick, of Chicago, a heavily-armed, desperate, escaped criminal and fugitive from justice. Shoot on sight if necessary."

As a result of the incident, it was the only public speech and seminar I missed in forty years in the public eye. Assuming I knew or found out exactly who the secret police are and were, I decided nevertheless not to sue for false arrest. My reasoning would take too long to detail.

So the American Gestapo, without arrest or search warrants, breaking into the home where Elian Gonzalez was, brings back memories. Am I the only one with memories of the secret police in the United States, dealing with dissident and controversial persons? Probably not.

Like any banana republic, America has secret political police, nameless, faceless, heavily-armed, subject to no law. Unless we can correct this situation, our Constitution is justifiably dead. This Gestapo follows the orders of the Commissar who runs the conspiratorial, private central bank known as the Federal Reserve, or orders of a Dictator posing as the President, or the head of the Injustice Department, or secret orders not identified from whom.

Nowadays, if the secret police come again to my door, they might notice there a decal from the National Rifle Association.

Stay tuned.

Elian Gonzalez And Cuba And The Spy Business
by Sherman H. Skolnick

To open up a supposedly "closed" country to big business, the robber barons need a trick. In the early 1970s, Red China was pried open by President Nixon to Rockefeller deals by sending in a ping pong team as a publicity/propaganda stunt. The Rockefeller-owned First National Bank of Chicago loaned Red China billions of dollars. As part of re-payment and reciprocal trade, mainland China has been allowed with impunity, via Chicago as an intake point, to flood the U.S. with their dope, called "China White".

[The rest of the details are in my series on the Red Chinese Secret Police in the U.S.]

Likewise, Chicago has become part of a scheme to re-establish international cartels in Cuba, the monopolies and their Cuba-based assets having been expropriated by Fidel Castro in his rise to power.

Reportedly tied to dope money laundering through the Chicago markets, Clinton, a Rockefeller agent, was saved from removal from presidential office by the U.S. Senate, key members of which were subject to blackmail.[More in later stories.] Clinton has been too valuable as a created puppet to simply throw away. Right after escaping removal, he found an excuse to bomb out Serbia, to soften up the region for the oil companies and their southern European plots in respect to oil pipelines and shipments from the developing oil-rich Caspian area of the former Soviet Union.

To help pry open Cuba for international swindlers and exploiters, the Clinton White House and their patrons were prepared to use any artifice workable or to create one. The Elian Gonzalez Affair was convenient if not staged. Some contend a CIA operative reportedly unlawfully removed Elian from the custody of the Immigration and Naturalization Service authorities who ordinarily would have simply shipped the boy right back to Cuba.

Another part of the same Cuban can-opener machine was George H. Ryan, elected Illinois Governor in 1998, amid commotions that he reportedly "bought" the Illinois State Elections Board to win a close election. Ryan has also been the focus of a drivers license bribery scandal. Numerous would-be truck drivers, some not eligible because they did not speak or read English, necessary to understand traffic signs, bought their licenses by bribing state officials.

Prior to becoming Governor, Ryan had been Illinois Secretary of State that runs the drivers license facilities. Quite a number of those that had been working for Ryan have pleaded guilty to federal charges of taking bribes to issue unlawful licenses. Many claim, however, they did not keep the bribes but forwarded the loot, as they had been pressured by Ryan's henchmen, to Ryan's GOP campaign for Governor. Ryan says he knows from nothing but is willing to contribute heavily to charity, some of the ill-gotten funds, to show his "good faith".

An elite IRS team reportedly recommended to the Justice Department that Ryan be prosecuted for bribery, as to the State Elections Board mess as well as the drivers license scandals. The Clinton Justice Department, still loaded with personnel installed by President George Herbert Walker Bush, reportedly corruptly scrapped the IRS referral. And most who rely only on the monopoly press do not realize that Bill Clinton is a closet Republican making corrupt deals with Chicago-area Republicans. [I and a TV associate of mine, Joseph Andreuccetti, taped a one-hour public access Cable TV Program for our weekly series "BroadSides", entitled "Corruption: Chicago to the White House". Without a search warrant, Clinton GOP surrogates seized the master tape of the show and refuse to return it to us. It is now the subject of five lawsuits by us against Clinton's culprits.]

About the time of the starting of the Elian Gonzalez Affair, Illinois Governor Ryan announced he was going to Cuba, as a purported goodwill gesture okayed apparently by the State Department. Ryan trumpeted he was bringing along some two million dollars of items donated by pharmaceutical firms receiving a tax write-off. Some government sources, however, contend a top Ryan crony arranged a deal with drug store type operations in Cuba, starved for such items, to re-sell the charity goods for about thirty million dollars. Ryan's circle reportedly was to get a one-third kick-back. The IRS elite team has reportedly made a second referral to the Justice Department, to no avail, that they prosecute Ryan for this further apparent bribery.

As a follow up deal, Ryan, with the reported help of an international lawyer based in the Chicago area, reportedly arranged with an Illinois riverboat gambling casino to explore the possibilities of helping Cuba raise money for their U.S. embargo-troubled economy, by gambling casinos being permitted to re-start in Cuba but under Cuban control. That is, Cuba would get a per centage rake-off of the casino take while supposedly tightly supervising the casino operations. [In Illinois, the state officials regulating riverboat gambling casinos are appointed by Ryan and there have been regulatory scandals while the Cuban matter has gone on. Ryan reportedly gets casino kick-backs similar to an ex-governor of Louisiana prosecuted for such bribes.]

Little-known are federal laws that permit gambling casinos to wire transfer funds worldwide similar to banks, an additional device for money laundering. [For related stories, visit our series on Greenspan/Bush and the secret wire transfer records.]

The public seems to have no understanding of how gambling casinos supposedly run by mobsters, were taken over by former top Justice Department officials of the Organized Crime Strike Force, reportedly running their own criminal enterprises. A case in point is Paradise Island in the Bahamas. The toll bridge to the island is reportedly owned by the Richard M. Nixon Estate which gets an income whether the gambling casino shows a profit or not. Paradise Island was taken over by two former Strike Force bosses, William G. Hundley and Robert Peloquin, who co-founded International Intelligence, Incorporated. Intertel as it is called is made up of former "spooks" of various U.S. and some foreign intelligence agencies. They supposedly are dedicated to a "clean", mob-free operation. In its simplest form, however, it is lawmen killing off or framing up mobsters and then taking over their game.

Read lots of details about Intertel in the book by Jim Hougan, "Spooks-The Terrifying True Story of Spies-for-Hire and Their Secret, Dirty War" (Bantam Books paperback edition, 1979.) Unfortunately or fortunately, I as head of a court reform group found out a great deal about Intertel.

In 1969, I publicly fingered most of the judges on state's highest court, the Illinois Supreme Court, as bribe-takers tied to a bank across the street from some of the judges Chicago office. A State Legislature impeachment committee hired a special counsel to interview me several times in my home. Not disclosed to me during the interviews was the lawyer, William G. Hundley, with his law-partner, both former Justice Department Strike Force officials, were running the mob-successor operation, with intelligence agency operatives, on Paradise Island. Both were kingpins in the Valachi Affair.

When I then fought the Paradise Island gang in Chicago's crooked courts, for trying to mislead me, in what turned out to be the biggest judicial bribery scandal in U.S. history, guess who showed up to lean on the local judges to protect the new mob on Paradise Island? Why, Henry Hyde, long an operative of Naval Intelligence. Hyde went on to become a U.S. Congressman and later, head of the House Judiciary Committee that led a watered-down, sex-episode only, no treason charges, so-called attack on President Clinton, the Impeachment Resolution of 1998.

Two former FBI agents, part of Intertel, were the ones who kidnapped me in 1980, as a commentator on bank collapses, during a period of bank commotions, as apparently ordered by the then head of the Federal Reserve. I was kept in a distant jail without the Warden there knowing originally who I am and why I was there, and without an arrest warrant.[Visit my story on my website, "The American Gestapo, Elian Gonzalez, and Memories".]

In a series I wrote on the corrupt IRS I told about how top IRS officials and former officials operate a gambling casino boat, as a reputed money laundry, in the Caribbean. George H. Ryan reportedly is tied to the gang of government gangsters and the boat as well as dope traffickers in Jamaica. All of it part of the reputed Intertel mob that has been apparently orchestrating the Elian Gonzalez Affair. The tie-in is reportedly through Intertel's secret Chicago office. This is a developing story.

Compare the foregoing details to the propaganda blitz about George H. Ryan's trip to Cuba:

Chicago Tribune "Cuba-Illinois courtship on" 10/6/1999. Chicago Tribune "Cuba Trip has Ryan toeing a fine line" 10/24/1999. ChicagoTribune "Ryan gives boost to religion in Cuba" 10/25/1999.

This is all apparently a media bombardment for big racketeers to open the door to Cuba and "tourism".

Stay tuned.